Message Text

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ACTION EUR-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-05 DRC-01 RSC-01 /014 W

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R 141105Z MAR 74 FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW TO USDOC WASHDC INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8101 AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS WARSAW 1409

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: BEXP, PL

SUBJECT: ADAPTATION OF POLISH FIAT 125 TO US SPECIFICATIONS: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FROM POLISH AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY.

VIENNA FOR EWTC

- 1. TDC HAS RECEIVED REQUEST FROM POL-MOT, FOREIGN TRADE ENTERPRISE OF THE POLISH MOTOR INDUSTRY, FOR NAMES, ADDRESSES OF US FIRMS SPECIALIZING IN ADAPTATION OF FOREIGN CARS TO US SAFETY AND EMISSION CONTROL STANDARDS.
- 2. POLISH FIAT 125 (DESIGNATED "125"P) WILL BE DISPLAYED AT NEW YORK AUTOMOBILE SHOW, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND WILL TAKE PLACE IN APRIL, AND POL-MOT REPRESENTATIVE KOMOROWSKI HOPES PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR NEW YORK APRIL 1 TO CONTACT US FIRMS CAPABLE OF MODIFYING THIS VEHICLE FOR US MARKET. VEHICLE EXHIBITED AT SHOW COULD REMAIN IN US FOR MODIFICATION AND TESTS.
- 3. TDC REQUESTS COMMERCE SUPPLY NAMES, ADDRESSES OF FIRMS WHICH PERFORM THE MODIFICATIONS MENTIONED IN PARA 1. UNDERSTAND ONE SUCH FIRM SPECIALIZING IN THIS WORK IS LOCATED IN VIRGINIA. POL-MOT LETTER TO TDC STATES ORGANIZATION IS IN PROCESS OF DECIDING WHETHER OR NOT TO INTRODUCE FIAT 125P TO US MARKET.
- 4. (FYI. IN RECENT WEEKS, SEVERAL U.S. INDIVIDUALS AND UNCLASSIFIED

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ORGANIZATIONS HAVE INDICATED TO EMBASSY THEIR INTEREST

IN IMPORTING POLISH FIATS. IN ONE INSTANCE, PROPOSAL MADE TO POLES WOULD INVOLVE ASSEMBLY IN CANADA. POL-MOT REPORTEDLY IS INTERESTED IN CONSIDERING THESE POSSIBILITIES BECAUSE WORLD ENERGY CRISIS HAS CAUSED POLISH FIAT SALES IN WESTERN EUROPE TO DROP SHARPLY WHILE CONCURRENTLY, SOME POLES BELIEVE, IMPROVING CHANCES FOR SALES OF THIS "ECONOMY" CAR IN THE U.S. END FYI). DAVIES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 14 MAR 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a

Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Authority: n/a Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:

Document Number: 1974WARSAW01409 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: n/a From: WARSAW

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740342/aaaabnfn.tel Line Count: 69

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE

Office: ACTION EUR Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: Previous Classification: n/a Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: golinofr

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 17 JUL 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUL 2002 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <18 JUL 2002 by golinofr>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: ADAPTATION OF POLISH FIAT 125 TO US SPECIFICATIONS: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FROM POLISH AUTOMOTIVE

INDÚSTRY TAGS: BEXP, PL To: n/a

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005